

**From:** Anatoly Volynets  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/9/02 1:00am  
**Subject:** Monopoly hearts!

To:  
Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney  
Suite 1200, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice  
601 D Street NW  
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From:  
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Dear Renata Hesse:

I would like to make some comments on Microsoft case.

1. I came in US from the former USSR. It is my understanding that communist country is that one of absolute monopoly in all areas of our life: culture, industry, media, education, etc. I feel "by skin" all humiliating impact of monopoly on "small" people. I also understand how monopoly slows down any progress in a society, how badly it affects science, technology, education, health care, everything.

That is why US antitrust laws make me personally happy. It may sound funny, but I do feel this way.

So my opinion in general is following: any monopoly must be fought and limited AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE for people, society and country sake.

2. One may say that some monopolists do not behave badly, do not really harm public, are honest in their attitude toward people and state, produce goods and services of high quality, keep fair prices, create jobs, represent economic power of the country, etc.

Maybe such monopolists do exist, but this is not about Microsoft Corporation. Whatever I know about their products and conduct is of the worst quality and impact possible. They always were the same as they are exposed in the movie "Pirates of Silicon Valley".

Consider just one issue: security holes in Windows OS and Windows based applications caused and entirely responsible for the "crackerism" as such. All world wide spread viruses exploit Windows weak points.

3. I cannot understand how the proposed settlement may solve problems caused by Microsoft activities. So I came out with my own proposition.

4. I am not a lawyer so my propositions may not be 100% legitimate, but I developed them based on my general knowledge. Once again, people, society and country always benefit from competition and suffer from monopoly. This is

true in general terms and nothing tells us against this in particular Microsoft case.

5. So I believe, the only considerable results in the case may be achieved by breaking Microsoft. I do not think it will work if we break it in 2. OS developing company has no reason to compete with Application developing company. I think it must be divided at least by 12:

2 OS developers,

2 Office application developers,

2 Internet application developers

2 Media application developers

2 ISP providers

2 ASP providers, so that the least competition occurred within each pair.

I do not know if such action be enough regarding financial means accumulated by Microsoft so far.

5. Looking into situation on market I think it would be necessary to apply additional taxation on all Windows related products and services, including education. Additional taxes should be used to create public funds to support competition, especially Free Software development.

6. Addressing low quality of MS products and dangerous security issues, their products and services must be treated the same way as tobacco ones:

No advertisement allowed;

Each product and service must be labeled accordingly by independent experts, to let people know what they pay for.

7. Addressing Microsoft's past monopoly power abuses, there must be heavy financial penalties applied, and collected funds to be used to support Free Software development.

Sincerely,

Anatoly Volynets